

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

1832-1833.

No. 14.

November 21, 1833.

JOHN WILLIAM LUBBOCK, Esq., M.A., V.P. and Treasurer,
in the Chair.

A paper was read, entitled, "Historical Notice to the supposed Identity of the large mass of Meteoric Iron now in the British Museum, with the celebrated Otumpa Iron described by Rubin de Celis, in the Philosophical Transactions for 1786." Communicated in a letter from Woodbine Parish, jun., Esq., F.R.S., to Charles Konig, Esq., Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society.

The mass of iron in question was transmitted to Buenos Ayres, for the purpose of being manufactured into fire-arms, at the period when the people of that country declared themselves independent of Spain; but a supply of arms having in the meanwhile arrived, it was deposited in the Arsenal, and afterwards given to Mr. Parish, who transmitted it to England. Its identity with the mass of iron described by De Celis, though probable, is not exactly determined.

A paper was also read, entitled, "Observations of Nebulæ and Clusters of Stars, made at Slough, with a Twenty-foot Reflector, between the Years 1825 and 1833." By Sir John F. W. Herschel, K.H., F.R.S.

This paper contains the results of observations begun in 1825, and assiduously prosecuted till the commencement of the present year, for the purpose of reviewing the nebulæ and clusters of stars discovered by his father, the late Sir William Herschel, and also of extending his discoveries, and enlarging our knowledge of the nature and physical constitution of those remarkable and mysterious bodies. Since the recent improvements in the achromatic telescope, and the increased diligence of astronomers in surveying every part of the heavens, and detecting the passage of comets, the want of an extensive list of nebulæ has become continually more urgent; and hence the author was induced to supply, as far as he was able, that deficiency, which he has now attempted by simply stating the results of his own observations, in preference to waiting until he could present them to the Society in the more complete form of a general catalogue of nebulæ and clusters visible in this latitude. All the observations here given have been reduced to a common epoch, and arranged in the